IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hill Conf. No.: 5158

Serial No.: 09/966,247 **Art Unit:** 3639

Filing Date: 09/28/2001 Examiner: Smith, Traci L.

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR Docket No.: END920010029US1

ROUTING HARDCOPY MAIL (IBME-0021)

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

This paper is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated June 7, 2006 and concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Prior to initial examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.